



Department of Justice

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BROWNSBURG MAN SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSING, DISTRIBUTING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

U.S. Attorney's Project Safe Childhood effort results in significant prison sentence

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS – The United States Attorney's Office announced this afternoon that Christopher Justin Eads, age 27, of Brownsburg, was sentenced this afternoon to 480 months (40 years) in federal prison after a hearing before U.S. District Court Judge Tanya Walton Pratt. This follows a four day jury trial in February 2012, in which Eads was found guilty of possessing (10 year sentence) and distributing (20 year sentence) child pornography, as well as tampering with a witness (10 year sentence). Judge Pratt ordered all sentences to be served consecutively.

An investigation into the defendant was launched in October 2011 after detectives with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department were able to identify an individual online that possessed and was distributing images of child pornography. A subsequent investigation led law enforcement to Eads's residence in Brownsburg.

In the course of executing a search warrant at the Eads' residence in November 2011, officers seized a laptop that was found to contain more than 6,900 images and videos depicting children engaged in sexually explicit acts. The youngest victims in these videos were infants only a few months old. It was later discovered that Eads attempted to persuade a witness in the investigation to change key details of a statement that the witness had given to law enforcement as to Eads' criminal activity.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorneys Gayle L. Helart and Zachary Myers, who prosecuted the case for the government, Eads was also sentenced to lifetime supervised release at the conclusion of his prison term. Eads was ordered to have no unsupervised contact with minors, and will not be permitted to have access to electronic devices.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Indiana Internet Crimes Against

Children Task Force, with significant contributions from the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department – Cyber Crimes Unit, the Brownsburg Police Department, the Indiana State Police, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more on Project Safe Childhood, visit www.projectsafefchildhood.gov

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